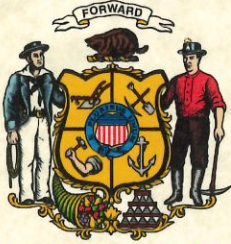


# STATE of WISCONSIN



## OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

# Proclamation

*WHEREAS*; recognized as a celebration of the rich, colorful, and inspiring history of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer communities (LGBTQ), October is LGBTQ History Month; and

*WHEREAS*; Wisconsin has a rich history of LGBTQ activism, support, and heritage, and over the past several decades, has taken critical steps toward achieving LGBTQ equity and equality, such as the passage of the nation's first law banning discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in 1982 and the election of LGBTQ individuals to public offices at all levels of government, including the first openly LGBTQ woman elected to the U.S. House of Representatives and the first openly LGBTQ person elected to the U.S. Senate; and

*WHEREAS*; the Black Nite Brawl of 1961 was the first known LGBTQ uprising in Wisconsin and one of the first in the history of the United States, having occurred eight years before the historic Stonewall Riots in New York City; and

*WHEREAS*; members of the LGBTQ community in Wisconsin, across the nation, and around the world have collectively worked to overcome discrimination on the basis of gender and sexuality, intersected by race, ability, and class, for generations, combating social stigma, demanding visibility and representation, and demonstrating incredible resilience; and

*WHEREAS*; as the state and nation reflect on its collective past, the struggles of the LGBTQ community should not be separated from modern history as there has been a recent significant increase in anti-LGBTQ legislation introduced in state legislatures throughout the country, including in Wisconsin; and

*WHEREAS*; as we honor LGBTQ history and celebrate hard-won liberties, we must commit to combatting hateful rhetoric and policies that target LGBTQ Wisconsinites—and LGBTQ kids, in particular—and continue working to ensure that all LGBTQ people are treated equitably and with dignity under the law in the state and across the country; and

*WHEREAS*; this month, the state joins all Wisconsinites in denouncing homophobia, discrimination, and hate in all its forms, celebrating LGBTQ individuals across the state as part of Wisconsin's collective history and heritage, and reaffirming its commitment to ensuring that every Wisconsinite has the right to stand boldly in their truth and identity;

*NOW, THEREFORE*, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,  
do hereby proclaim October 2023 as

## LGBTQ HISTORY MONTH

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance  
to all our state's residents.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have  
hereunto set my hand and caused the  
Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin  
to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in  
the City of Madison this 4th day  
of October 2023.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tony Evers".  
\_\_\_\_\_  
TONY EVERS  
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sarah Godlewski".  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SARAH GODLEWSKI  
Secretary of State